29 April 1988

Memorandum For The Record

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From:

Subject: Officially Released Information System (ORIS)

Reference Material: ORIS SYSTEM CONCEPT DOCUMENT Dated 19 May 1987

This purpose of this document is to provide the Development
Group (DG) with a record of events which have led to the
decline in development of the ORIS project.   This document
will also serve as a record of the meetings which were held
in attempting to uncover   the issues surrounding this
project.   Perhaps this information can assist DG in making
any ORIS related decisions.

KEY PLAYERS:

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is the customer for ORIS and was in OIS prior to
the office merging with OIT.   Currently   is a
branch chief in the Information Services Division (ISD).   It
is rumored that Pat will be leaving ISD in the near future.

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was the division chief in ISD.   Although he
is familiar with ORIS he has been reassigned within OIT.

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was directing the DOS-type team in OIS before
the office disolved and merged with OIT.   She was the
initial project manager for ORIS.

Bush, Hartt & Kingsbury, Incorporated (BHK) - A software
firm which has a full-text storage/retrieval package
(Personal Librarian).

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On April 29 1988, a meeting was held between
and

Marsha stated that the ORIS System Concept Document was
inaccurate because it provided the concept for a massive
document system and since the document was written, ISD has
watered down their requirements to only focus on the
information which is currently related to DECAL.

Marsha stated that one of the reasons which the massive
system concept was dropped was because Mr. Donnelly (DA) did

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not think that it was a good idea to place all agency released documents into one system. Mr. Donnelly felt that a single, central, document-tracking system could potentially turn out to be an embarrassment to the Agency if information, for some reason or another, showed up in the public domain and was not recorded in the central system.

Marsha seemed to think that someone in Pat's area "dragged their feet" in ordering the equipment and that's one of the reasons why the system is not functioning today.

MY OPINION:

It is obvious that Marsha and Pat do not see eye-to-eye on issues.

On April 29 1988, a meeting was held between DG and MG/ISD. Attendees:

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The purpose of the meeting was to touch base with the customer and to get a feel for which requirements, stated in the Concepts document, were still valid.

Patricia realizes that there is now a serious problem with the data storage.

Patricia stated that BHK suggested that she could get about 40 optical disk to satisfy this requirement. This, of course, is a very unattractive solution to the problem.

Patricia also wants to have the Palentir moved to AMES. (In my opinion this has to do with the communications problem between Marsha and Patricia)

I suggested to Patricia that they should hold off on purchasing any new equipment until DG can provide a recomendation on data storage.

Patricia confirmed that there will be approximately 100 decentralized users as stated in the Concepts document.

Patricia gave us a demo on how requests for released information are handled.

I think DG should write a paper which will address the following four items and the associated cost. The findings should be presented to ISD and from this paper DG and ISD can jointly make a decision whether or not to proceed with ORIS.

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1) Data Storage - Image & ASCII
2) Mainframe -vs- Stand alone
3) Optical Disks

Clearly there are other issues to address (i.e. full-text search, additional hardware, database conversion), however, there is no need to consider those issues at this time since data storage is the primary stumbling block.